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**Library Assistants' Association.**

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## The Indicator.

"LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION, ARCHITECTURE, FITTINGS, AND FURNITURE."

By F. J. BURGOYNE. 1897.

"The Cotgreave Indicator is that in use in the majority of the British Free Libraries."

"THE FREE LIBRARY: ITS HISTORY AND PRESENT CONDITION."

By J. J. OGLE. 1897.

"The Recording Indicator is almost certainly the invention of Mr. A. Cotgreave (Public Libraries, West Ham, London, E.), and is that most largely used."<sup>†</sup>

### "THE SCOTSMAN."

"All the London Free Public Libraries which use indicators, except one, have adopted the Cotgreave System, which has been found to work well."<sup>‡</sup>

N.B.—See also "Greater London," by E. Walford, M.A., F.S.A. (page 380); Methods of Social Reform," by Prof. W. Stanley Jevons, M.A., F.R.S., LL.D.; "Public Libraries," by T. Greenwood, F.R.G.S.; &c., &c.

<sup>†</sup> As a matter of fact it will be found in about nine-tenths of the Libraries using Indicators. Over 300 Institutions are now using it.

<sup>‡</sup> Sixty-two Public Libraries in London and the Metropolitan area are using it.

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TO GENERAL AND PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

Price to Subscribers, 7s. 6d.

Price when published, 10s. 6d.

(800 copies have already been subscribed for. See List).

### "DAILY NEWS."

"A 'Contents-Subject Index to General and Periodical Literature' would, if properly done, be a great time-saving machine. Such a work is being undertaken by Mr. A. Cotgreave. The first part, which is now before us, is distinctly promising. It will be helpful to many students and readers."

### "DUBLIN REVIEW."

"The Editor of the 'DUBLIN REVIEW' (Canon Moyes), desires me to thank you for the specimen of the 'Contents-Subject Index,' and to say that he has formed a high opinion of it, in fact he has already found it useful."

T. W. HUNTER, Librarian, Archbishop's House, Westminster.

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*Full particulars of the above and also of other Library Aids sent upon application to the*

## LIBRARY AIDS CO.,

166a, Romford Road, Stratford, London, E.





# The Library Assistant:

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THE LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

FOUNDED 1895.

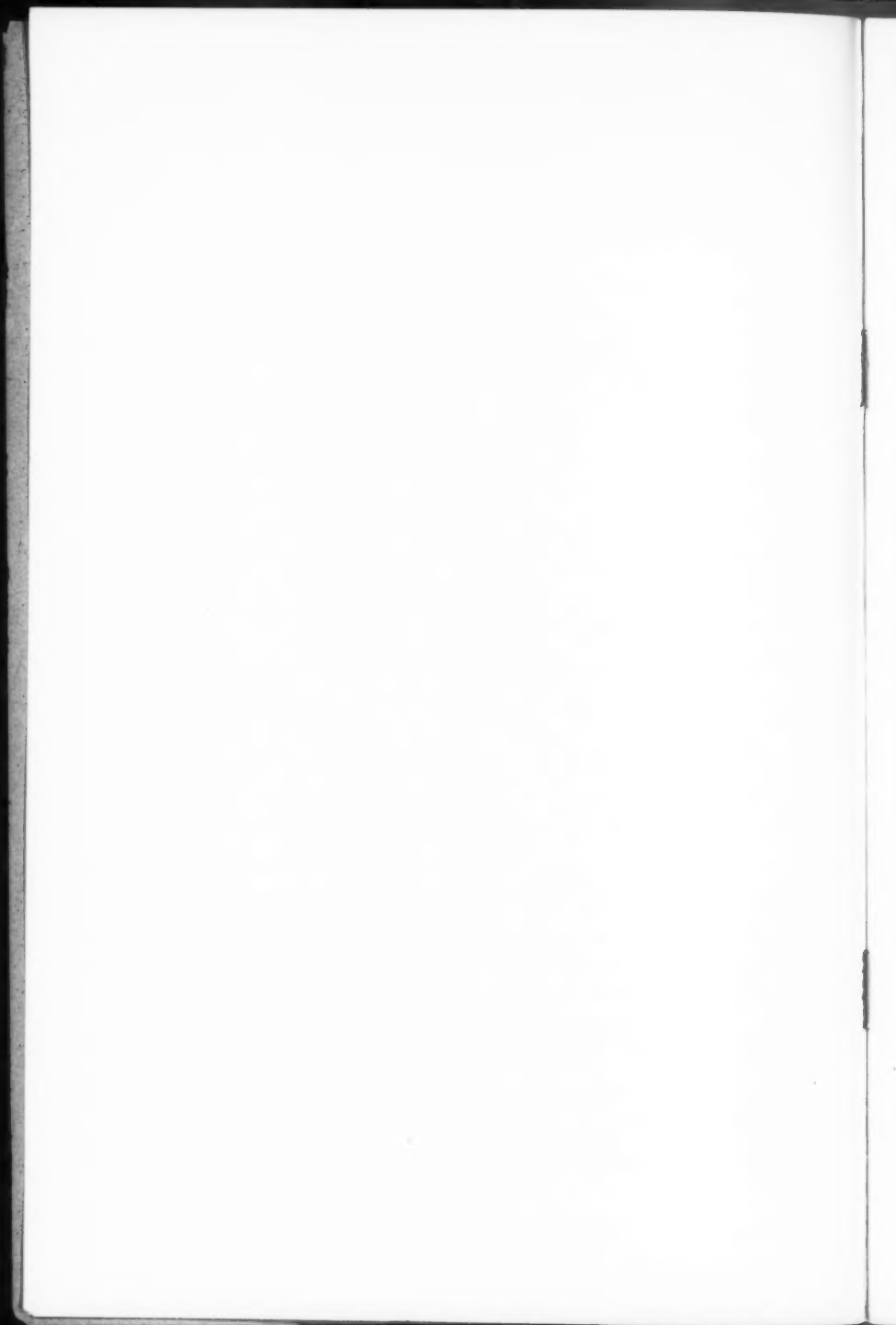
SIXTH SESSION.

YEAR 1900-1901.

## In Memoriam.

### QUEEN VICTORIA.

It falls to our lot to record our participation in the profound feelings which the passing of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria has universally aroused. These are felt as a sense of loss such as the departure of any eminently good man or woman, whose characteristics have long been impressed upon the mind, awakens, but with the superadded sense that here was one the stupendous beneficent and intimate nature of whose influence has never been paralleled. Queen Victoria was so simply chivalrous that her character could be presented to the least cultured and remotest, and felt by the nearest and most learned, of her subjects, in a manner that inspired of which devotion grew without faltering. Never sparing herself in the determination to possess a familiar and influential knowledge of business and affairs touching the life and welfare of the nation, her sympathies were always actively engaged on her people's behalf to such an extent, that the sufferings unavoidably contingent upon war, and recently endured by her faithful subjects, proved too great a strain upon her. Her life and reign will always remain a noble historical illustration of the possibilities of human nature and of wise statecraft.



*Members are requested to read carefully the announcements appearing on this and following pages, as no further intimation of meetings and other arrangements may be expected.*

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### MARCH MEETING.

A meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on March 6th at St. Saviour's Public Library, 44A, Southwark Bridge Road, when Mr. H. D. Roberts has kindly consented to address those present upon an educational subject.

At this meeting the vacancy on Committee caused by the appointment of Mr. G. E. Roebuck as Hon. Secretary *pro. tem.*, will be filled.

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### APRIL MEETING.

Mr. J. Henry Quinn will talk on Cataloguing on April 17th at the Chelsea Polytechnic, Room 57, next door to the Library, at 8 p.m.

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### L.A.A. 1901 PRIZE ESSAY SCHEME.

Assistants are reminded that the last date for sending in the essays for this competition is April 2nd next. Full particulars of the scheme will be found on referring to the November number of this journal.

The new Hon. Secretary's address, should, however, be noted on our last page.

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### RESIGNATION OF Mr. J. W. BROWN.

With mingled feelings we have to announce the resignation by Mr. J. W. Brown of the post of Hon. Secretary of the L.A.A. We heartily congratulate him upon his new appointment at Cardiff recorded on the appropriate page of this journal, and at the same time we cannot but feel that his removal leaves the Association at large, and his colleagues in London in particular, very much poorer for the change. The formation of a South Wales branch, would, however, afford some set-off against this. Mr. Brown became Hon. Secretary at the last Annual Meeting, and his energetic organisation of the business, not only current, but prospective, has earned him the well-deserved admiration of those with whom he has worked. To him it was due that the educational scheme, long vaguely talked of, at last took successful shape as the "Study Circle." May we hope that many more

assistants will commemorate his official labours by taking up the work prescribed each month.

Mr. G. E. Roebuck has been appointed Hon. Secretary *pro tem*.

#### FEBRUARY MEETING.

The February Meeting of the L.A.A. was held on February 6th, at Cripplegate Institute, when Sir Edmund Verney, Bart., delivered a most interesting lecture on "Old Bibles" before a good attendance of members, with many lime-light views of specimen pages of various old editions, and portraits of people more or less connected with the history of the English translations of the Bible.

The lecturer first touched upon the difference in the character of the extant knowledge upon the early texts of the Old and New Testaments. There was a comparatively large number of ancient manuscripts of the whole or of portions of the New Testament, which could be collated in the effort to arrive at a true meaning of the original text when translating. But it was not so with regard to the Old Testament, for, some centuries before the Christian era, the Jews had decided upon one particular text as canonical, and this was the only source available, though some light upon obscure readings might be obtained from the Greek of the Septuagint version, which was made from the Hebrew at an early date. The name of this version arises from the fact that seventy (more correctly seventy-two) elders were engaged upon the translation. The difficulties of the translators might be illustrated by points which would arise in the translation of an English book into the French in which the French translator inserts some phrases and sentences not represented in the original. Upon being re-translated into the English and compared with the original the divergencies of the French version would be apparent.

The question of the canon is an exceedingly interesting one, as, at different periods, the portions of the Bible held to be the Word of God have varied a good deal, and the way in which errors and different readings have arisen is also instructive. Up to the middle of the fifteenth century all books were in manuscript, but in order to reduce the cost of production scribes worked in companies from dictation, and it may easily be seen that if the reader made a mistake, or spoke thickly, or read from a copy which was not exactly accurate, errors might creep in in spite of a reasonably strict system of checking the dictated pages.



One change amongst many in the revised version is "meal offerings" instead of "meat offerings."

When printing was introduced conditions were greatly changed. A book set up in type might be corrected before printing off, and every copy struck off would be precisely the same and the cost and speed of production were vastly improved. A determination arose in the minds of good men that the English people should have the Bible in their own tongue, and the lecturer proposed to illustrate the history of the subject during the five reigns ending with James I, under whom we received the Authorised Version of 1611. It is interesting to note that 400 years ago six men who had a good deal to do with the Bible were all boys, Henry VIII was 7 years old, Miles Coverdale 10, Tyndale 14, Thomas Cranmer 14, Thomas Cromwell 8, Latimer 13. Sir Edmund Verney very kindly brought with him for inspection, from his private collection, copies of five old editions, including a first edition of Thomas Matthews's Bible, a Bug Bible, 1551, Bishop's Bible, first edition, 1568, Breeches Bible, 1599, and a Tyndale New Testament, 1536, and several of the portraits shown were reproduced from the originals in his picture gallery at Claydon House.

The first portrait projected upon the screen was that of Henry VIII, whose partiality for theological questions may be partly accounted for by the fact that he was trained for holy orders, his brother Arthur being expected to succeed to the throne. The portraits of Catharine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour are of interest through their being the mothers respectively, of Mary, Elizabeth, and Edward VI, each of whom exercised a powerful influence upon the position of the Bible amongst their subjects.

Tyndale, 1484-1536, was born at Gloucester, educated at Oxford and Cambridge, and he printed at Worms in 1526, at his own expense, the New Testament, this being the first issue of any part of the Bible in English. Several pages were shown containing passages which read very quaintly.

Tyndale's Testament was laid under ban, and vigorous efforts were made to destroy every copy. Packington, a member of Parliament for London who traded to Antwerp, was approached as to the best means of getting rid of the obnoxious book, and he agreed to obtain the remainder of the edition. He was secretly friendly to Tyndale, who, he knew, wished to part with that edition in order to print a better; and duly brought the volumes to London where they were burned. Soon the trouble

was as active as before, but, when interrogated, Packington said he had certainly bought the whole remainder of the edition. An act was passed in 1543 forbidding the use of Tyndale's translation, and confining the reading of Bibles to certain classes of the people, husbandmen, artificers, and labourers not being permitted to read it. Curiously enough there was no clause giving the clergy the right to read the book. Copies were then ordered to be chained to reading desks, whence one could read to a circle of listeners.

In 1535 appeared the first complete English Bible by Miles Coverdale who was born in 1488, made Bishop of Exeter in 1551, settled at Geneva, and died there 1569 at 81 years of age.

The passages conferring the names "Bug" Bible, and "Treacle" Bible, were shown on their respective pages; as also a repeated title page, and the words of the ending of the Books of Kings arranged in the form of a cross, from a Matthews Bible of 1537. A Holbein title page of 1539 showing the King, Archbishop, and Thomas Cranmer giving out copies of the Bible to the people, belonged to an edition of which the printing in Paris was interrupted by the Inquisition. The Prayer Book version of the Psalms is taken from this edition. The differences between some old editions is marked by the use of asterisks of 5, 6, or 8 rays. Before 1541 sixteen different editions of the Bible had been printed. Edward VI, and Protector Somerset were portrayed, followed by a view from the 1st Epistle of Peter, 1551 Bible, of the passage where the husband is enjoined to beat a disobedient wife upon the head, a title page 1553 New Testament, and a portrait of Latimer (1485-1545).

A large number of eminent theologians had to leave England, and went to Geneva, one result being the Genevan Version of 1557, for the first time divided into verses. This is called the Breeches Bible, and contains the phrase "Blessed are the peacemakers" instead of "peacemakers." The size of the volume was made convenient and portable, and it passed through 200 editions. There are curious annotations.

Wyclif, Beza, Luther, Calvin, Huss, Cranmer, and James I, respectively appeared upon the screen.

The 1568 translation by eleven bishops and clergy was ordered to be placed by the clergy in their halls or dining rooms for the use of servants and visitors. The Authorised Version was translated by forty-seven scholars between 1607 and 1611, and when it is understood that no English grammar was then in

existence the capacity of the men who did the work will be more readily appreciated.

A most interesting and instructive lecture was followed by votes of thanks to Sir Edmund, to Mr. Ward who manipulated the lantern, and to the Librarian and Governors of the Institute.

## NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH.

### FEBRUARY MEETING.

The monthly meeting, postponed from the 2nd of the month, was held on Saturday, February 23rd, in the Central Library, Oldham. Owing to local arrangements, the lecture on "William Morris" was held over until March 2nd, but thanks to the exertions of Mr. William Berry, and the courtesy of the lecturer, Mr. Walters, the members were honoured by having the lecture announced delivered privately for their benefit. Having inspected the splendid collection of pictures, over four hundred in number, forming the Oldham Spring Exhibition, tea was served prior to the business meeting, and the audience then assembled in the Staff-Room. Mr. J. H. Swann occupied the chair, and in opening the meeting expressed his regret that the number of members present left much to be desired considering the importance of the of the occasion which had called them together.

Mr. Berry having introduced the lecturer, Mr. Walters proceeded with the subject in hand, and every one privileged to hear him eagerly followed his delineation of the poet-artist and his work. Mr. Walters sketched the meteoric career of Morris from his youth to his untimely end, describing at length the many influences which had a bearing on the character and temperament of his subject. He said that when Morris first entered Exeter College, he sat next to a youth who, an entire stranger to him then, was to have a great deal to do with the shaping of his after life, and who became one of his greatest friends. The youth was Burne-Jones, who decided to become a painter, and Morris an architect; but it was under the influence of Rossetti that Morris abandoned the draughtsmanship of plans for the painter's palette, and to whom he looked as his master.

Joining the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, as it was termed he earnestly sought to combat the ugliness which he found on every hand around him, ugliness in form, in colour, and in design, against which his soul revolted, although, as he himself wrote:

"Dreamer of dreams, born out of my due time,  
Why should I strive to set the crooked straight?"

Nevertheless, he was a dreamer who was for ever striving to turn the brilliant imaginings of his mind into the realities of actual form and power.

As a poet he was a worthy successor to Chaucer, to whom he looked as a master, and Chaucer's influence may be traced throughout his verses: especially was this the case in his "Earthly Paradise," which is his greatest poem. "Sigurd the Viking" and the "Fall of the Niblungs" also show traces of the influence of the early English Poets, and it is a question whether we ever had a sweeter singer. Indeed, his prose works may be said to be too sweet for the average reader. So peculiar is the language and sentiment with which he clothes his romantic tales, that I doubt if there are a hundred people in our country who can properly appreciate them. His writings are so numerous that it would take up too much time to describe them at length. In 1874 he took a trip to Iceland, and we have as a result his translation of "The Icelandic Tales"; he also translated the "Æneid," which, however, was not such a success as his translation of the "Odyssey." Beside his poetry and romances he wrote numerous works with a purpose, such as his "Dream of John Bull," and also lectured on Art and Socialism, a creed of which he was an earnest but unsystematic follower, editing the "Commonweal" in its cause.

To Morris, more than any other man of our times, do we owe the vast change which has come over domestic decoration, and it was only his untiring energy and love of labour for labour's sake, which enabled him to undertake the revival of dying or lost processes in craftsmanship to the extent which he did. As a printer, every lover of books owes him a debt of gratitude for his magnificent work in connection with the Kelmscott Press, which he organised and supervised at enormous personal labour, but the work he turned out was worth it, and worthy of him who, above all other things, was an artist of the beautiful.

Mr. Swann expressed the thanks of those present for the exceedingly interesting and instructive lecture to which they had listened, and he felt assured that many of them would be induced to read for themselves the life and works of Morris.

Mr. P. D. Gordon, in supporting the vote of thanks to Mr. Walter, said he hoped that the small attendance would be somewhat compensated for by the quality of their appreciation, which he could assure Mr. Walters was sincere, and they felt honoured indeed by his kindness.

A cordial vote of thanks was also accorded to the Oldham Staff, coupled with the name of Mr. W. Berry, for their efforts on behalf of the Library Assistants' Association.

On the invitation of Mr. R. Bateman, the members then attended "the Musical Evening" in the Art Gallery.

P.D.G.

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#### MARCH MEETING.

The next meeting will be held in the Branch Library, Deansgate, Manchester, on Wednesday, 6th March, at 8 p.m. Mr. Henry Percival will read a paper on "Edwin Waugh—his life and work."

SUBSCRIPTIONS are now due, and should be paid to the *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. W. Crompton, Y.M.C.A. Library, Peter Street, Manchester.

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#### LIBRARY ASSISTANTS AT BRISTOL.

The opening of the North District Library at Bristol on the 13th inst., referred to in another column, was, by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Norris Mathews, made the occasion of a social reunion of the library staff. Fortunately, Wednesday afternoon—the weekly half-holiday—was selected for the opening ceremony, and this circumstance enabled almost the entire staff, numbering about 40 members, to be present. Mr. Norris Mathews said that it would be a red-letter day in the calendar of the library, such opportunities of bringing the staff together being few and far between. Remarking that this was the fourth new library to be opened since his appointment as City Librarian in 1893, he said they were certainly born to work in a busy era of library history, and proceeded to compare the past and present methods of library work, humorously referring to the times when folios and duodecimos were located side by side, and giving instances of curious catalogue entries which it had been his lot to unravel. Referring to what had been accomplished by the present staff, the librarian said they had now become so experienced as to even recognise the various temperaments and tempers of the public readers—to distinguish between the earnest student, the busy business man, and the dilettante or superior person who literally *commands* our respect.

Mr. Gilmore Barnett (senior member of the Libraries Committee) also welcomed the guests, and in a very encouraging

speech, said they were fortunate in their very excellent City Librarian, and congratulated the branch-librarian and staff of the new library on the manner in which they had accomplished their work. It was gratifying to him to inform them that during the many years that he had been on the Libraries Committee, no complaint against any of the library staff had reached him, and he assured those present that the Committee did all in their power to promote the interests of the assistants generally. With regard to advising the public on the selection of books, a very serious responsibility rested with librarians, he urged them when casually applied to for a work of fiction, to recommend one by Sir Walter Scott, rather than a work of ephemeral character.

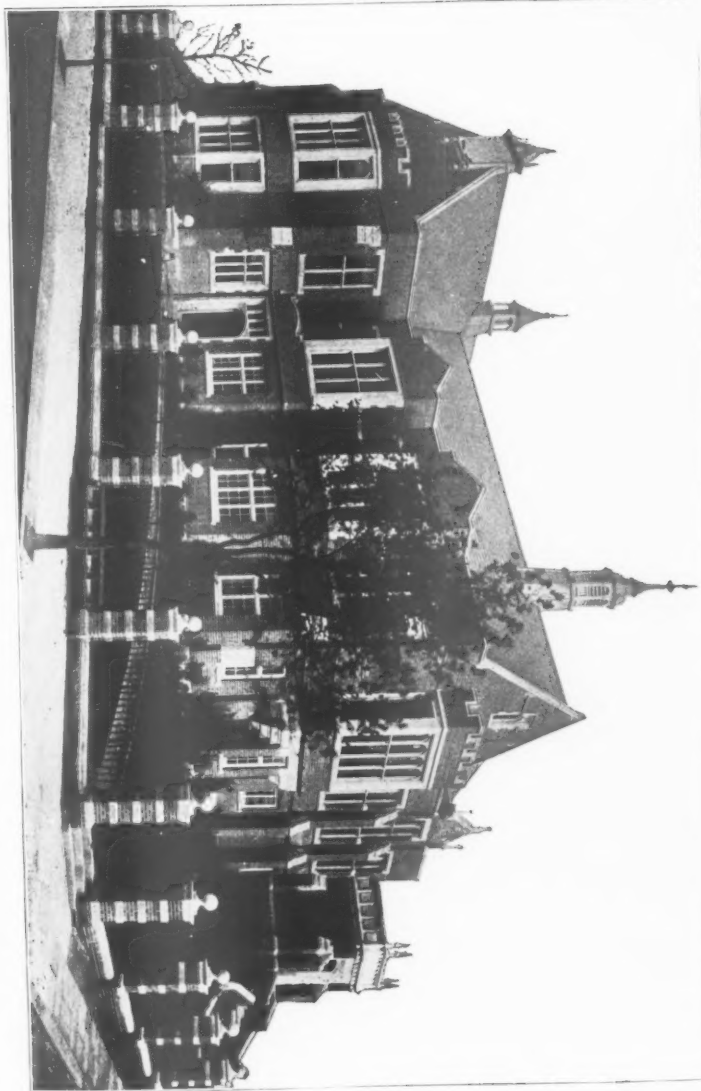
A tour of the building completed a most enjoyable and instructive afternoon.

#### HAMPSTEAD PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

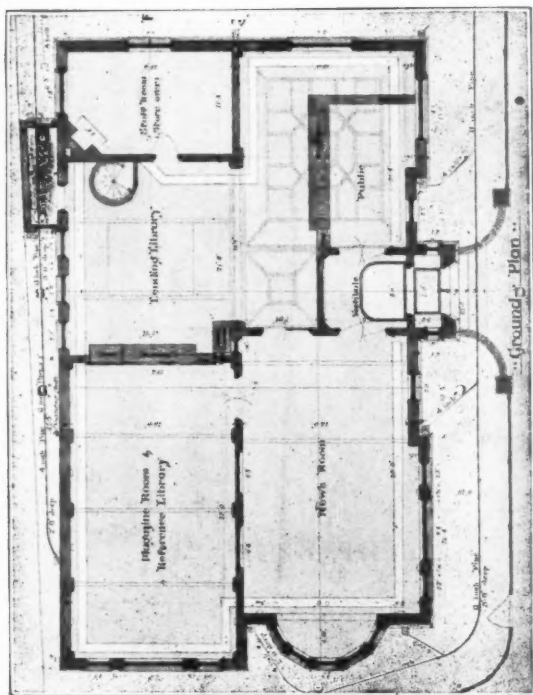
The Public Libraries Acts were adopted in Hampstead in February, 1893, by a poll of the parish, and nine Commissioners were appointed by the Vestry to carry the provisions of those Acts into effect. The arrangements necessary for the provision of a Central Library received an extended consideration, concurrently with the question of providing temporary accommodation in various parts of the parish. Ultimately a plot of land with a frontage of 120 feet in Finchley Road, and 156 feet in Arkwright Road, was selected as the site for the Central Library. The Vestry sanctioned a loan of £1,920 for the purchase of the freehold on November 30th, 1893, the approval of the Local Government Board being received in the following February. The lord of the manor returned £350 of the purchase money as a donation towards the cost of the Library building.

A private house was adapted as a temporary branch library for the Kilburn side of the parish, and, Mr. W. E. Doubleday having been appointed Librarian, the Reading Rooms were opened in October, 1894, the Reference Department in January, 1895, and the Lending Library, of some 7,000 volumes, in April, a catalogue having been prepared.

Meantime the Commissioners arranged for a limited competition for the purpose of deciding upon a design for the Central Library building, and submitted that of Mr. Basil Champneys, estimated to cost £8,761, to the Vestry, by whom, however, it was not adopted. Mr. H. Harben, J.P., now Sir Henry Harben, Mayor of Hampstead, generously gave a sum of £5,000 to build the Library, upon condition that the cost should not exceed that



HAMPSTEAD CENTRAL LIBRARY.



GROUND PLAN OF THE BELSIZE BRANCH LIBRARY, HAMPSTEAD.



amount, and the Commissioners thereupon selected a design by Mr. Arnold S. Tayler, A.R.I.B.A., which proved capable of the necessary revision, and still possessed a pleasing exterior. This was afterwards adopted by the Vestry.

The Central Library is a two-storey building, of the domestic Tudor style, built of Cranleigh red bricks, with dressings and mullions of Portland stone. It stands at the junction of Arkwright Road and Finchley Road, with a frontage to both thoroughfares; and is placed in an easily accessible position in almost exactly the centre of the parish. The main entrance in Arkwright Road leads by means of a porch and a Central Hall, 37 feet by 16 to the News and Magazine Rooms, and Reference Library, all well-lighted rooms, which fill the upper floor. The News Room is 26 feet by 28, parallel with Arkwright Road, and is separated from the Magazine Room by an arcading of polished marble-like stone. The latter room is 46 feet by 25, and parallel with Finchley Road, whilst the Reference Library, 50 feet by 30, and proportionately lofty, looks out through a handsome mullioned bay into Finchley Road, the other end facing the vacant land at the back not yet utilised. The large lantern-lighted Central Hall has a good deal of wall space, which is occupied with local views and portraits; the porter's box occupies an angle, commanding a view of the main entrance and of the swing doors leading into the three parts of this floor, the head of the stone staircase from the lower storey, and the news stands through a glazed screen; a further feature being a fire hydrant with hose and other apparatus. Ventilation is greatly assisted by the provision of numerous "Tobin's tubes," with foul-air extractors in the ceilings. The ground floor is occupied by the Lending Library, the Librarian's Office, and three store-rooms, the approach being a 'footpath rising from Finchley Road. The artificial lighting is by electricity, the heating by hot water, the floors are laid with silent wood blocks, and the fittings are of polished teak.

Cotgreave indicators are used in the Lending Department, and show cases for new and special books find a place in both, a very large one having just been erected in the Reference Library for special exhibitions and new books. A selection of new non-fiction works for the Lending Department is shown in this case during the month, being transferred to the Lending Library upon the first day of the following month. These books are freely used in the Reference Library during the period of exhibition, and only one opinion has been expressed, that in its favour. There are two cases of books free of access to the readers in the Reference Library, a feature which has always found a place at Hampstead,

and which has lately been extended, many of the other cases having wire screens through which the books may be seen.

A special indicator records the issue of single monthly numbers of the magazines which are issued in cases. As at St. George, Hanover Square Libraries, public copies of the catalogue are printed upon linen, and have answered very well. Guides are published at intervals, and a series of special class lists in addition to the dictionary catalogue are being brought out, a special feature of the catalogue being the annotations.

The Belsize Branch Library was opened on April 10th, 1897. The design was prepared by the Vestry Surveyor in collaboration with the Librarian, whose views with regard to securing an economical supervision of all departments were carried into effect.

A Reading Room has been maintained in the older part of Hampstead, near the High Street, since March, 1894.

The first public function of the Corporation of Hampstead took place on February 21st last, when the Mayor (Sir Henry Harben), supported by the aldermen in their robes of office, opened the new West End Branch Library to the public. This is a building very prettily designed in the style of English Cottage Architecture, also by the Surveyor.

The Libraries contain some 35,000 volumes, including the library of Professor Henry Morley, which was purchased by the Vestry. This gives one volume for about every two inhabitants, and the system of libraries provides one for every 15,000 of the inhabitants. One person out of every eleven inhabitants holds a borrower's ticket, and about a third of these has also a supplementary or student's ticket.

#### STUDY CIRCLE.

The papers sent in on last month's questions are distinctly superior in merit as compared with those of the previous month, though composition still leaves much to be desired.

Students should bear in mind that originality in dealing with the literature questions is taken into consideration in marking the papers, whereas the general tendency seems to have been to reproduce the words of the book.

While the Committee are pleased to notice new names among the list, they regret to find that *Belmont*, *Junio*, *Bonten*, *C.C.B.* and *Poet*, show lack of continuity, as papers so marked

have failed to appear. Utilising a Biblical metaphor we would say, "the assistant who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is unfit for the honours of his profession."

It may be, however, that some have changed their pen-name, but in all cases the same pseudonym should be used throughout each course.

The total number of marks obtainable is 250; students will see the result of the adjudication below:—

<i>Senior Papers.</i>			<i>Junior Papers.</i>		
		Marks.			Marks.
Andreas			Bòc ... ..		223
Arnward			Liber ... ..		214
Crito		... 245	A.C. ... ..		197
Houghten Tower			Celestial ... ..		195
Inky			Lector ... ..		186
Bookworm		... 240	Briton ... ..		183
Excalibus	... ..	230	Nosredna ... ..		182
Mormon	... ..	225	Boer ... ..		157
Spero ... ..		215			
Student	... ..	210			
Roughyed	... ..	210			
Books	... ..	192			
Bibliophile	... ..				

### MODEL ANSWERS.

#### JACOBI.

8vo.—The size of a book when the sheets have been folded three times, making 8 leaves or 16 pages to each sheet, forming 1 gather.

Folio.—The size of a book when the sheets have been folded once, making 2 leaves.

4to.—The size of a book when the sheets have been folded twice, making 4 leaves.

12mo. or duodecimo.—The size of a book when the sheets have been folded four times, making 12 leaves.

NOTE.—The above terms apply to sheets of different measurements.

Stet.—"Let it stand." When matter has been crossed out by error in the proof; a dotted line is drawn under the word or words to be retained, and the word "stet" is written in the margin.

⑨—A letter printed upside down is to be reversed.

w.f.—Wrong fount, and denotes that a different style of type, although the correct letter, has been used, which must be replaced with a type of the same style as its fellows.

(.)—A full stop required.

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BROOKE.

*The Legend of King Arthur.*—The Arthurian legends are of Celtic origin, and were introduced into Wales from Brittany. About the year 1132 Geoffrey of Monmouth gathered them into a continuous narrative in his "History of the Britons." The book is little more than a collection of the current myths and legends, with memories of the Crusades, and dreams of the future triumph of the Welsh over the Saxon invaders. The work was at once translated into French verse by the *trouvères* Wace and Gaimar. Gradually other legends were incorporated into the story such as the tale of Merlin the Enchanter, Lancelot, and Tristram, and the other Knights of the Round Table. As a result of its popularity collateral poems came into being, and Robert de Boron composed the first poem on the Saint Graal, but this too was drawn into the vortex of the Arthurian legend. Walter de Map wove the various stories together, adding the superb figure of Galahad, the Knight without fear and without reproach.

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SAINTSBURY.

*Froissart.*—Jean Froissart was born about 1337. In his youth he wrote charming verse, but his reputation as a poet was totally eclipsed by that brilliant historical tableau which he named his "Chronique." Most of his life was spent travelling in many lands watching court pageants and tournaments, or listening to the tales of warriors returned from the wars. In his "Chronique" we have a surprisingly vivid picture of feudal life in the middle ages, with all its splendour of costume, its rapid movement, and its profusion of colour. He is the Walter Scott of the Middle Ages. He died about 1410.

*Rabelais.*—Authorities are divided between the years 1483 and 1495 as the date of Rabelais' birth. The son of a tavern-keeper of Chinon, he became in turn a monk first of the Franciscan, then of the Benedictine Order, doctor, librarian, ambassador's secretary, and vicar of Meudon. Always enjoying life to the full, he made a great reputation no less by his colossal learning

than by his perennial good-humour. In "La vie de Gargantua et de Pantagruel," the outcome of his ripe years, he anticipates nearly all the religious, political and educational reforms of modern times. This marvellous book is compact of the most exalted thought and the liveliest wit, but, unfortunately, it is marred by the most nauseating foulness; to his ribaldry, indeed, he owed his safety, for his enemies failed to recognise the bitter satire underlying his buffoonery. Rabelais died in 1553 with an unwholesome jest on his lips at the expense of his inveterate enemies the monks.

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QUINN.

1.—The first or the best known Christian name should be put in full, with the initials only of the others; but when dealing with a well-known author, the initials only of each Christian name are frequently sufficient, as—

ABLETT (WILLIAM H.), WRAY (J. JACKSON), THACKERAY (W.M.).

2.—Enter pseudonymous authors under the name by which they are best known with a cross-reference from the less known name, as—

*O'Rell (Max)*, Paul Blouet.

Blouet (P.) See *O'Rell (Max)*.

*Travers (Graham)*, Margaret G. Todd.

TODD (MARGARET G.) See *Travers (Graham)*.

PARR (HARRIET), *Holme Lee*.

*Lee (Holme)*. See PARR (HARRIET).

3.—When the name is English, it should be entered under the last name, with a cross reference from the first, in uncommon or recently assumed compound names, as—

GOULD (S. BARING-).

DUNTON (THEODORE WATTS-).

WATTS-DUNTON (THEODORE). See DUNTON (THEODORE WATTS-).

Foreign authors with compound names should be entered under the first, according to the custom of their countries, as—

SERNA-SANTANDER (CARLOS ANTONIO DE LA,).

LEFFLER-ARNIM (ANNA,).

## MARCH READINGS.

JACOBI.—Pp. 141-172. Notice especially the chapters on Reading, and Presses.

BROOKE.—Chap. IV., and for concurrent work read Spenser's "Faerie Queene," Lee's "Life of Shakespeare," or any of Shakespeare's Plays.

SAINTSBURY.—Chap. VI.

QUINN.—Pp. 70-81.

## QUESTIONS ON FEBRUARY WORK.

*It is hoped that students will not again refer to the February work after seeing the questions, until the papers are sent in.*

JACOBI.—Say what you can about the Linotype Machine. Originality will be taken into account.

BROOKE.—Write a short article on the rise of Scottish poetry, and mention four poets.

SAINTSBURY.—Name six literary characters of the French Classical Period.

QUINN.—State how you would deal with books, with regard to principal entry only, in the following instances:—(1) Where there are two or more authors; (2) Where the illustrations are as important, or more important than the text; (3) In the case of Magazines. Give three examples in each case.

All papers must now be addressed to MR. W. B. THORNE, ST. BRIDE INSTITUTE, BRIDE LANE, FLEET STREET, E.C., and should reach this address not later than the first post on the 14th of each month.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY,  
SUNDERLAND,

February, 1901.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The proposal made by Mr. J. Wilson Brown for a visit to Paris for the purpose of combining pleasure and profit in acquiring a knowledge of French, is a very good one, but I am afraid it will hardly meet with the support of the majority of the library assistants.

Having regard to the necessity and use of languages to librarians and assistants, and without any intention to deprecate it, I think a readable knowledge of most languages can be learnt at home, and in lieu of the trip to Paris, I beg to suggest that a

conference of library assistants should be held in some large city or town, on the same lines as the Annual Conference of the Library Association.

I feel sure that if a meeting of this kind could be arranged for about a week in July and if we had the co-operation of library assistants, and a little assistance from some Chief Librarians, papers relating to library matters could be read and discussed, libraries, etc., visited and described, excursions arranged, and altogether a very successful conference and profitable holiday would be the outcome.

I trust that assistants will express their views on this proposal, and hope the result will be the "First Annual Conference of the Library Assistants' Association."

I am,

Yours faithfully,

ALFRED ERRINGTON.

[It should not be forgotten that the L.A.A. holds an Annual General Meeting every year.—ED. *L.A.*]

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

BRISTOL.—The new North District Branch Library was opened on February 13th by the Lord Mayor, Mr. J. Colthurst Godwin; and in the absence through illness of Mr. Alderman Fox, the chair was taken by the Vice-Chairman of the Libraries Committee, Mr. W. R. Barker, supported by Mr. Norris Mathews, City Librarian, the Town Clerk, City Surveyor, and members of the Town Council. The Library, a handsome building in the English Renaissance style, contains 12,000 volumes, abundant space being left for future additions. Besides its lending, news and reading departments, there are also excellent binding and storage rooms. The branch-librarian is Miss A. Price, who has held that office for some years in the old building.

CAMBERWELL.—Mr. Passmore Edwards, who has already been so generous to this Borough, now makes another offer of £3,000, for the building of a new Branch Library.

STEEPLE CLAYDON.—This parish has now followed the example of its neighbours and adopted the Public Libraries Acts.

WESTMINSTER.—The City Council at their meeting on 31st January last adopted the Public Libraries Acts 1892 and 1893 throughout the whole area of the City to which those Acts do not already extend, this to take effect as from the 1st April, 1901.

## SOCIETY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIANS.

A meeting of the Society of Public Librarians was held at the Bishopsgate Institute on Wednesday evening, February 6th, when Mr. H. S. Newland (Harlesden) read a paper entitled "Ephemeral Literature."

## NEW MEMBERS.

SENIOR.—Mr. W. Law (*Perth*).

JUNIOR.—Mr. William Williams, *Junr.* (*Bootle*).

## APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES.

ANDERSON, Mr. A. A. R., Junior Assistant, St. George (E.), to be Assistant, St. Bride Institute.

BROWN, Mr. J. WILSON, Sub-Librarian, Shoreditch, and late Hon. Secretary, L.A.A., to be Chief of the Lending Department Staff, Central Library, Cardiff.

CHAMBERS, Mr. W. G., Hon. Treasurer, L.A.A., to be Assistant Librarian, Walthamstow. Mr. Chambers takes with him nine years' experience gained at Stoke Newington.

GREEN, Mr. THOMAS, Senior Assistant, Shoreditch, to be Sub-Librarian.

MACFARLANE, Mr. JOHN, of the British Museum to be Director of the Imperial Library, Calcutta.

SOPER, Mr. H. TAPLEY, Senior Assistant, Stoke Newington, to be Sub-Librarian.

WHITTINGHAM, Mr. EDWARD, Assistant, Mudie's Manchester Library, to be Sub-Librarian, Lyceum Library, Liverpool.

## NOTICES.

Communications relating to the Journal and its publishing should be addressed to the *Hon. Editor*, Mr. Henry Ogle, 60, Constantine Road, N.W.

Subscriptions should be paid to the *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. W. G. Chambers, Public Library, Walthamstow, Essex. Senior Members, 5/-; Junior Members, 2/6; including a copy of the Journal monthly. Subscription to the Journal 3/- per annum to non-members, post paid.

All other communications should be addressed to the *Hon. Secretary, pro tem.*, Mr. G. E. Roebuck, 236, Cable Street, E.







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